

B. Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1. (currently amended): Printing cylinder supporting unit for a printing machine, comprising a supporting frame (27) and supporting means mounted on the supporting frame (27) for rotatably supporting one of a number of printing cylinders (1), which are designed so that in the operating state they make contact with a substrate (3) that is to be printed along a contact line (6) coinciding with a describing line of the printing cylinder (1), in which unit the printing cylinders (1) can have different diameters and the supporting means for an each axial end of a printing cylinder (1) comprise at least three supporting bearings (11, 12, 13), each of which is designed to interact at the position of a bearing point with the bearing surface (5) of a bearing ring fixed concentrically on the axial end concerned of the printing cylinder (1), wherein

~~characterized in that~~ the bearing points for the an axial end concerned of the printing cylinder (1) lie on a common circle with variable diameter;

~~in that~~ the printing cylinder supporting unit comprises movement means (21.1, 22.1, 23.1) for moving the supporting bearings (11, 12, 13) in such a way that the bearing points move along movement lines (21, 22, 23) that have a fixed position relative to the supporting frame (27), the movement lines intersecting each other at a reference point (25) that is fixed relative to the supporting frame (27), which reference point lies on the same common circle and in the operating state lies in a plane that is defined by the contact line (6) and the centre point of the common circle;

and

~~in that~~ the printing cylinder supporting unit comprises connecting means (40, 42, 43) for connecting the movements of the bearing points along their respective movement line.

Claim 2. (currently amended): Printing cylinder supporting unit according to claim 1, in which the movement lines (21, 22, 23) are straight lines and the connecting means (40, 42, 43)

connect the movements of the bearing points along their respective movement line in accordance with a fixed ratio.

Claim 3. (currently amended): Printing cylinder supporting unit according to claim 2, in which the movements of the supporting bearings (11, 12, 13) are interconnected by means of straight connecting rods (42, 43), which are all rigidly connected to each other at the position of a first supporting bearing, and which are each connected in a sliding manner to a separate subsequent supporting bearing.

Claim 4. (currently amended): Printing cylinder supporting unit according to claim 2 ~~or 3~~, in which the supporting bearings (11, 12, 13) are each movable along a straight supporting bearing guide.

Claim 5. (currently amended): Printing cylinder supporting unit according to claim 4, in which the supporting bearing guide comprises a groove (21.1, 22.1, 23.1) in the supporting frame (27), in which a connecting piece is accommodated in a sliding manner, on which connecting piece the supporting bearings (11, 12, 13) are fixed.

Claim 6. (currently amended): Printing cylinder supporting unit according to ~~one of the~~ claim[[s]] 2[[-5]], which comprises three supporting bearings (11, 12, 13) for each axial end of a printing cylinder (1), in which for each axial end the straight movement line along which a bearing point of a first supporting bearing is moved lies substantially in the plane that is defined by the contact line (6) and the centre point of the common circle, and in which the straight movement lines along which the bearing points of a second and third supporting bearing are moved are mirrored relative to said plane and form an angle of substantially 60° relative to said plane.

Claim 7. (currently amended): Printing cylinder supporting unit according to ~~one of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 1, in which the supporting bearings (~~11, 12, 13~~) are in the form of rollers (~~11.1, 12.1, 13.1~~), which can roll over the bearing surface (~~5~~) of the bearing ring.

Claim 8. (currently amended): Use of a printing cylinder supporting unit according to ~~one of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 1 in a printing machine.

Claim 9. (currently amended): Printing machine provided with a printing cylinder supporting unit according to ~~one of~~ claim[[s]] 1 [[- 7]].

Claim 10. (new): Printing cylinder supporting unit for a printing machine, comprising a supporting frame and a support mounted on the supporting frame for rotatably supporting one of a number of printing cylinders, which are designed so that in the operating state they make contact with a substrate that is to be printed along a contact line coinciding with a describing line of the printing cylinder, in which unit the printing cylinders can have different diameters and the support for an axial end of a printing cylinder comprise at least three supporting bearings, each of which is designed to interact at the position of a bearing point with the bearing surface of a bearing ring fixed concentrically on the axial end concerned of the printing cylinder, wherein
the bearing points for the axial end concerned of the printing cylinder lie on a common circle with variable diameter;

the printing cylinder supporting unit comprises guides for moving the supporting bearings in such a way that the bearing points move along movement lines that have a fixed position relative to the supporting frame, the movement lines intersecting each other at a reference point that is fixed relative to the supporting frame, which reference point lies on the same common circle and in the operating state lies in a plane that is defined by the contact line and the centre point of the common circle;

and

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the printing cylinder supporting unit comprises a connector for connecting the movements of the bearing points along their respective movement line.